HERSHEY'S

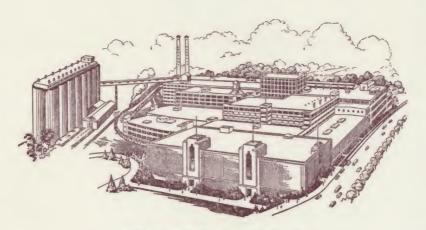


ANNUAL REPORT DECEMBER 31, 1958



HERSHEY CHOCOLATE CORPORATION

HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA



Executive Offices and Manufacturing Plant



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. J. GALLAGHER, Chairman

W. H. RADEBAUGH

S. F. HINKLE

W. E. SCHILLER

L. W. MAJER

J. B. SOLLENBERGER

D. PAUL WITMER

OFFICERS

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S. F. HINKLE, President

L. W. MAJER, Vice President and Secretary

W. E. SCHILLER, Vice President and Treasurer

E. B. LEHMAN, Comptroller

TRANSFER AGENT
FIRST NATIONAL CITY TRUST COMPANY
NEW YORK

REGISTRAR
GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY
OF NEW YORK

AUDITORS

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.
NEW YORK

To the Stockholders:

It is a pleasure to submit this report on the progress of your Company during the year 1958.

Sales in 1958 totaled \$164,003,791, an increase of \$6,168,968 over the preceding year, and net earnings amounted to \$12,716,115 as compared with \$14,909,809 in 1957. The net earnings were equivalent, after deducting dividends on Preferred Stock, to \$5.25 and \$6.03 a share of Common Stock in the respective years. Dividends on Common Stock totaled \$3.15 a share in 1958 as compared with \$3.10 in 1957, including yearend extras of \$.75 in 1958 and \$1.00 in 1957. Dividends on Preferred Stock in 1958 amounted to \$103,011 as compared with \$431,510 in 1957. This reduction resulted from the redemption of the Preferred Stock in the early part of 1958.

The cost of doing business was greater in 1958, and it was not possible, under the competitive conditions of our industry, to make adequate adjustments to offset all the additional costs. The principal problem we encountered, and the one which was the most significant factor in the reduction in the profit margin, was the high cost of cocoa beans. As mentioned in the annual report for 1957, adverse weather conditions in West Africa resulted in a substantial reduction in the 1957-1958 cocoa bean crop, with a consequent sharp rise in the market price.

As anticipated a year ago, and following the historical pattern, resistance to the high prices developed and was reflected in the year 1958 in a drop in the world-wide consumption of cocoa beans. The United States Department of Commerce has reported, on the basis of data supplied by the Chocolate Manufacturers Association of the United States of America and other processors, that the estimated cocoa bean grindings in the United States as a whole were 10.9% lower in 1958 than in 1957. This drop in consumption is an economic factor which can logically be expected to have a correcting influence on the price level.

It has been emphasized in the annual reports of prior years that the level of cocoa bean prices has an important bearing on the Company's earnings, and that the history of such prices is one of very wide fluctuations. It is not feasible at this time to predict the price trend for an extended period as it will depend upon future crops and the pressure of world demand. The world production of cocoa beans in the current crop season seems likely to be considerably more than the relatively poor harvest of the preceding season; however, the market price at the present time, although much lower than the peak in 1958, is still too high to stimulate consumption of chocolate products.

Working capital at the end of 1958 amounted to \$55,449,257. This was \$5,554,709 lower than at the close of the preceding year; however, approximately \$10,000,000 of the Company's funds were used to redeem the Series A 4-4% Preferred Stock. These shares were subsequently retired, along with the Preferred Stock previously purchased and carried as treasury stock. The redemption of the Preferred Stock will result in the elimination of annual charges for preferred dividends of approximately \$400,000. During the year, expenditures of approximately \$1,000,000 were made on the continuing program of improving plant and equipment.

The Company owned at December 31, 1958, \$13,337,396 of U.S. Government and other short-term securities in addition to those set aside in the accompanying balance sheet for the payment of Federal income taxes. A substantial part of these securities will be converted into cash during the year to meet normal seasonal operating requirements.

We are pleased to report the introduction of another new product from our development program. HERSHEY'S Mint Chocolate has just been announced to the trade and we expect that it will shortly have nationwide distribution. This product will be available in several package sizes, one of which is pictured in the enclosed sample of promotional material. Hershey's Mint Chocolate follows "Hershey-ets" and Hershey's Instant Cocoa Mix, which were introduced in the last several years and have found wide acceptance and popularity. The importance of research and development is recognized by the management, and the program is being aggressively followed.

As a matter of general interest, increasing numbers of people come to Hershey every year and many are conducted on an extended tour of the plant. In 1958 a new record was established with approximately 200,000 visitors to the factory from all parts of the world.

We welcome this opportunity to express our appreciation to the officers and employees for their loyalty and cooperation during the past year. With their continued effort we look forward with confidence to the future.

By order of the Board of Directors,

J. J. GALLAGHER

S. F. HINKLE

Chairman of the Board

President

February 20, 1959.

HERSHEY CHOCOL

\$ 8,670,211

BALANCE SHEET -

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cusii		\$ 0,070,211	
U. S. Government and other short- term securities, at cost		13,337,396	
Accounts receivable, less reserves of \$472,630		5,783,535	
Inventories (Note 1)		32,843,785	
Total current assets		\$60,634,927	
PLANT AND PROPERTY, at cost:			
Land	\$ 96,085		
Buildings and improvements	14,039,414		
Machinery and equipment	25,162,095		
Construction in progress	206,025		
	\$39,503,619		
Less—Reserves for depreciation	22,946,525	16,557,094	
DEFERRED AND PREPAID ITEMS		914,675	
		\$78,106,696	

NOTES:

- (1) Inventories of cocoa beans and almonds, together with the cocoa beans, are stated at cost under the "last-in, first-out" method. The remaini
- (2) At December 31, 1958, 98,410 shares of authorized and unissued approved in 1957, for sale to officers and other key employees. At a share and 1,625 shares at prices ranging from \$55.00 to \$59.06. the proceeds of \$85,860 were credited to the common stock account

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ECEMBER 31, 1958

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		\$ 4,199,967
Reserve for state taxes		985,703
Reserve for Federal income tax	\$10,627,182	
Less — U. S. Government short-term securities	10,627,182	
Total current liabilities		\$ 5,185,670

CAPITAL STOCK AND SURPLUS:

Common stock, without par value—
Authorized 3,000,000 shares (Note 2);
outstanding 2,400,841 shares \$ 4,286,576

monds and the wage costs included in finished goods and goods in process, inventories are stated at the lower of average cost or market.

m in stock of the Company were reserved, under the Stock Option Plan it to the there were outstanding options to purchase 28,060 shares at \$54.00 options to purchase 1,590 shares were exercised during the year 1958 and

HERSHEY CHOCOLATE CORPORATION

STATEMENTS OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND EARNED SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1958

PROFIT AND LOSS

GROSS SALES, less discounts, returns and allowances		\$164,003,791
COST OF GOODS SOLD, SHIPPING, SELLING, ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSES		136,687,676
		\$ 27,316,115
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES: Federal income tax	\$13,650,000	
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	950,000	14,600,000
Net profit for the year		\$ 12,716,115
NOTE: Costs and expenses for the include provision for depreciation of equipment in the amount of \$1,494,	plant and	

EARNED SURPLUS

EARNED SURPLUS AT DECEMBER 31, 1957	\$ 63,826,566
ADD Net profit for the year 1958	12,716,115
	\$ 76,542,681
DEDUCT Dividends — On Series A 4-%% preferred stock - redeemed May 15, 1958 (\$.53% per share)\$ 103,011	
On Common stock (\$3.15 per share) 7,560,135	
Premium of \$1.50 a share on redemption of preferred stock less \$45,895 representing excess of par value over cost of treasury preferred stock	7,908,231
EARNED SURPLUS AT DECEMBER 31, 1958	\$ 68,634,450

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE

To the Board of Directors and the Stockholders of Hershey Chocolate Corporation:

We have examined the balance sheet of Hershey Chocolate Corporation (a Delaware corporation) as of December 31, 1958, and the related statements of profit and loss and earned surplus for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and statements of profit and loss and earned surplus present fairly the financial position of Hershey Chocolate Corporation as of December 31, 1958, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, and were prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.

New York, N. Y., February 9, 1959.



HERSHEY'S PRODUCTS

FOR THE CONSUMER

MILK CHOCOLATE BARS

MILK CHOCOLATE KISSES

ALMOND BARS

BAKING CHOCOLATE

SEMI-SWEET BARS

DAINTIES

KRACKEL BARS

COCOA

MR. GOODBAR

CHOCOLATE SYRUP

MINIATURE BARS

INSTANT COCOA MIX

HERSHEY-ETS

HOT CHOCOLATE POWDER

MINT CHOCOLATE

CHOCOLATE FUDGE TOPPING

FOR INDUSTRIAL USERS

(Confectionery, Baking, Ice Cream, and other Industries)

CHOCOLATE COATINGS

COCOA POWDER

UNSWEETENED CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE SYRUP

COCOA BUTTER CHOCOLATE FUDGE

HERSHEY CHOCOLATE CORPORATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES AND MANUFACTURING PLANT HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA

WAREHOUSES

Atlanta, Ga.

Billings, Mont.

Cambridge, Mass.

Chicago, III.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Dallas, Texas

Davenport, Iowa

Denver, Colo.

Detroit, Mich.

East St. Louis, III.

Houston, Texas

Jacksonville, Fla.

Kansas City, Mo.

Little Rock, Ark.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Memphis, Tenn.

Milwaukee, Wis.

New Orleans, La.

North Bergen, N. J.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Omaha, Neb.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Portland, Ore.

St. Paul, Minn.

Salt Lake City, Utah

San Francisco, Cal.

Seattle, Wash.

SALES OFFICES

In all principal cities in the United States





HERSHEY'S MINT CHOCOLATE

CANDY COATED

NEWEST THING FROM Chocolate Town...

NEWEST THING IN THE CANDY INDUSTRY

NEWEST CONSUMER TASTE DELIGHT AND YOUR HERSHEY'S Mint Chocolate NOW IN 10¢ BAGS AND 25 16. BULK

ANOTHER FIRST- in favor and flavo

